

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 GENEVA 00948 231506Z
ACTION ACDA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 NRC-05 CIAE-00 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 OIC-02 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-05
PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 TRSE-00 DODE-00 NSC-05
SOE-02 AF-10 ARA-10 EA-10 NASA-01 NEA-10 DOE-11
OES-07 ACDE-00 /153 W
-----108222 231511Z /45

P 231454Z JAN 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4997
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USNATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 00948

RW MESSAGE NO. 4

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PARM UR US
SUBJECT: US-USSR ARMS CONTROL WORKING GROUP ON RADIOLO-
GICAL WEAPONS AND NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION

REF.: A. STATE 13981 (NOTAL), B. GENEVA 607 (NOTAL)

1. PRIOR TO JANUARY 20 MEETING ON CHEMICAL WEAPONS (CW),
AMBASSADOR FISHER (HEAD OF US DEL) SPOKE WITH AMBASSADOR
LIKHACHEV (HEAD OF SOVIET DEL) ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY
OF FURTHER WORK ON A JOINT INITIATIVE DEALING WITH
RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS. FISHER SAID THAT HE HAD REPORTED
TO WASHINGTON THE SOVIET PROPOSAL THAT ANOTHER ROUND OF
TALKS ON MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS (MDW) INCLUDING
RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS (RW) BE HELD DURING THE CURRENT
ROUND OF CW NEGOTIATIONS. FISHER REPORTED THAT THE US
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 GENEVA 00948 231506Z

IS NOT PREPARED TO START ANOTHER ROUND OF RW NEGOTIATIONS
UNLESS IT IS CLEAR THAT THE REDUCED BLAST/ENHANCED
RADIATION (RB/ER) WEAPON, WHICH THE SOVIETS REFERRED
TO AS A NEUTRON WEAPON, IS EXCLUDED FROM THE DEFINITION
OF RW.

2. LIKHACHEV RESPONDED THAT THE SOVIET POSITION WOULD BE

REVEALED IN THE COURSE OF NEGOTIATIONS ON MDW/RW AND THAT IT WAS IMPROPER FOR THE US SIDE TO PLACE PRECONDITIONS ON SUCH NEGOTIATIONS.

3. FISHER SAID THAT THE PREVIOUS WORK ON A POSSIBLE RW JOINT INITIATIVE HAD BEEN CARRIED OUT ON THE UNDERSTANDING THAT NUCLEAR EXPLOSIVES WERE OUTSIDE THE SCOPE OF RW. HE NOTED THAT WHEN THE SOVIET SIDE PROPOSED LATE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS TO INCLUDE WITHIN THE RW PROHIBITION RB/ER WEAPONS, WHICH THE SOVIETS REFER TO AS NEUTRON WEAPONS, THIS CHANGED THE BASIS FOR THE NEGOTIATIONS SINCE THESE ARE A TYPE OF NUCLEAR WEAPON. FISHER SAID THAT THE US SIDE IS WILLING TO MEET WITH THE SOVIET SIDE ON RW TO DETERMINE IF THE BASIS FOR NEGOTIATIONS HAS BEEN RESTORED. IF DURING THE COURSE OF SUCH PRELIMINARY DISCUSSIONS IT BECOMES CLEAR THAT THERE IS A BASIS FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS, THEN THE US SIDE WOULD BE PREPARED TO CONSIDER STARTING A NEW ROUND IN THE RW NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID THAT IT WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE TO CHARACTERIZE THE US POSITION AS A PRACTICAL APPROACH RATHER THAN A PRECONDITION.

4. LIKHATCHENV INDICATED THAT THE US POSITION WOULD BE CONSIDERED.

5. COMMENT: IT IS CLEAR THAT LIKHATCHEV FEELS UNDER CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 GENEVA 00948 231506Z

PRESSURE TO GET ANOTHER RW ROUND STARTED. WE HAVE HAD FURTHER INDICATIONS FROM THE SOVIET DEL THAT THEY ARE PREPARED TO DROP THE NEUTRON WEAPON FROM RW, AND LIKHATCHEV MAY HAVE PLANNED TO USE THIS AS A BARGAINING CHIP IN THE NEGOTIATIONS. HOWEVER, THE US POSITION IN EFFECT NEGATES THE BARGAINING VALUE OF A CHANGE IN THE SOVIET POSITION. IF THE SOVIET SIDE DOES DECIDE TO DROP THE NEUTRON WEAPON ISSUE IN THE CONTEXT OF RW IN ORDER TO GET THE NEGOTIATIONS STARTED, THEY WILL PROBABLY ELECT TO PURSUE THE ISSUE OF THE SO-CALLED NEUTRON BOMB UNDER SOME OTHER RUBRIC. VANDEN HEUVEL

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ARMS, ADVANCED WEAPONS, COMMITTEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978GENEVA00948
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780033-1164
Format: TEL
From: GENEVA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780135/aaaabdbby.tel
Line Count: 105
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: b90225e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 STATE 13981, 78 GENEVA 607
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 26 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3732334
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: US-USSR ARMS CONTROL WORKING GROUP ON RADIOLOGICAL WEAPONS AND NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION
TAGS: PARM, MASS, UR, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/b90225e1-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014